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## REVIEWS AND NOTES.

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*The Social Survey*, by Carol Aronovici, Ph.D. Philadelphia. The Harper Press. 1916. 255 pp.

This little book, one of the publications of the Bureau for Social Research of the Seybert Institution in Philadelphia, is a welcome addition to the growing literature upon this subject. The first chapter deals with the need of a survey and what may be expected to be accomplished by it. This opening section is, in some ways, the most valuable portion of the book because it was evidently written by one who knows what he is talking about. He recognizes the advantage of skilled assistance and the necessity of limiting a survey to those subjects in which there is some hope for improvement from an awakened public conscience. This section is filled with timely hints gained from experience. The remainder of the book is devoted, to a considerable extent, to schedules which may be used in the making of a survey. These relate to such topics as city planning, industry, health, leisure, education, crime, etc. Under each of these headings is given a list of the particular points upon which information may be expected to be collected. To purely statistical matter, only one section of five pages is devoted and much of this is taken from King's "Elements of Statistical Methods." This very brief reference is little better than nothing. The author excuses the brevity of this treatment on the ground that "All that could be justly expected is to point out the need for its use and refer the reader to the bibliography which gives a list of what are at this time considered the standard works on the statistical method in the hope that the surveying forces will venture into the study of some of these books prior to undertaking the task of tabulating, correlating, and interpreting the information gathered in the course of the survey."

One section of the book gives it such a value that most students of this subject will wish to see this volume in their library. This is a very complete and carefully prepared bibliography of some sixty pages. This is sub-divided under various headings and gives what is by all odds the best list of readings upon this subject which has been prepared up to the present. Taken as a whole, the book is an acceptable contribution to the literature of social problems in this country.

WM. B. BAILEY.

Yale University.

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*The Forty-Second Annual Report of the Orange Memorial Hospital for the Year 1915.*

The annual report of the Orange Memorial Hospital is much like the reports of other hospitals in this country with the exception of the fact that Mr. Frederick L. Hoffman has prepared a statistical analysis of the

experience data of the hospital for the year 1915. This analysis enables the reader to gain some accurate information upon a number of points which are not apparent in the ordinary hospital report. The cases are distributed between white and colored and sub-divided according to sex and age. With the cases thus distributed a study is made of the results of the hospital treatment, whether the condition of the patients on discharge was cured, improved, unimproved, died, or not stated. When these distinctions are made it is apparent that the fatality rate was quite different for males than for females and for whites than for colored. The average duration of hospital treatment is also stated according to age and sex.

A further division of the inmates into private, free, or part pay patients is made and these are still further distributed according to the sections of the community from which they come. Although considerably more than half of the free and part pay inmates come from Orange, only about one fourth of the private and semi-private patients come from the same place, showing the advantage to East, West, and South Orange of having a hospital for private patients. This statistical analysis covers but five pages and yet it gives just the information which is often sought in vain concerning the activities of a hospital of this nature. It is to be hoped that other hospitals may be led to include a similar analysis in future reports.

W. B. B.

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*Select Discussions of Race Problems. A Collection of Papers of Especial Use in the Study of Negro American Problems.* Edited by J. A. Bigham. 108 pp. Atlanta University Press. 1916. Price 50 cents.

The first few pages of this pamphlet contain the Proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Conference for Study of Negro Problems. The rest of the volume consists of a number of reprints of articles by well known writers, which have appeared in various publications. The subject-matter of these papers is the physical and mental bases of race distinction, and particularly the question of the superiority or inferiority of races as compared with each other. The particular trend of all the articles is to emphasize the conclusion that no tangible evidence of the inherent racial inferiority of the Negro to the white man, in mind or body, has yet been established. It is obvious that the discussions have been "selected" with this in view, and that therefore the pamphlet, while containing much that is interesting and valuable, is, as a whole, entirely lacking in critical or scientific value.

H. P. FAIRCHILD.

Yale University.